Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of compounds of the general structure (I),

wherein

R¹ is alkoxy with 1 to 4 carbon atoms and

R² is hydrogen or fluorine,

comprising reacting a compound of general structure (II),

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
O & CI & O \\
II & I & II \\
R^1 - C - C - C - C - R^1 & (II)
\end{array}$$

wherein

R¹ has the meaning described above and

R³ is hydrogen, fluorine or chlorine,

with 1.4 to 2.0 mol equivalents of an addition product of hydrogen fluoride and triethylamine per mol of starting material of structure (II) at temperatures of 103°C to 115°C at 800 to 1200 mbar.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein R^1 is methoxy or ethoxy.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3 are hydrogen.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the temperature is from 105°C to 110°C.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the addition product of hydrogen fluoride and triethylamine contains 1.2 to 1.8 mols hydrogen fluoride per mol triethylamine.
 - 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 2, wherein R² and R³ are hydrogen.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 2, wherein the temperature is from 105°C to 110°C.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 2, wherein the addition product of hydrogen fluoride and triethylamine contains 1.2 to 1.8 mols hydrogen fluoride per mol triethylamine.